

MR. CHAIRPERSON AND HEARING ATTENDEES

THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK

I AM TOM HARMON FROM FOWLerville AND REPRESENT A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 30 INDIVIDUALS WHO RESIDE ON NICHOLSON ROAD IN CONWAY TOWNSHIP. WE MET THIS PAST SATURDAY TO GO OVER THE CONCERNS WE HAVE ON THE ROAD.

APPROXIMATELY 25 YEARS AGO NICHOLSON ROAD AND THAT PORTION OF MOHRLE ROAD WHICH ARE COUNTY PRIMARY ROADS WERE REDITCHED AND SUBSTANTIAL WORK DONE TO CREATE A BASE FOR A HARDSURFACED ROAD. VERY LITTLE GRAVEL WAS ADDED TO THE BASE AND IT APPEARED THEY WOULD BE SURFACED THE FOLLOWING YEAR. NO ASPHALT WAS EVER INSTALLED. THE ONLY GRAVELING DONE SINCE THAT TIME WAS IN SMALL PATCH UP AREAS. I HAVE LIVED THERE 35 YEARS.

WE ARE WELL AWARE THE COUNTY HAS LIMITED FUNDS AVAILABLE.

ABOUT 50% OF THE TIME THIS ROAD IS NOW IN SUCH POOR CONDITION THAT TRAVELING IN EXCESS OF 35-MILES PER HOUR IS UNSAFE. AS THIS IS A PRIMARY ROAD AND USED FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLES IT IS JUST A MATTER OF TIME WHEN AN AMBULANCE WILL ARRIVE TOO LATE OR FIRETRUCK TOO LATE AS A RESULT OF POOR DRIVING CONDITIONS. OVER THE LAST 10 TO 15 YEARS THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL ONE-CAR ACCIDENTS WHERE VEHICLES HAVE GONE OFF THE ROAD WITH SEVERAL ROLLOVERS AND TREE COLISSIONS. SUV'S AND PICKUP TRUCKS ARE POPULAR VEHICLES IN THIS RURAL AREA AND ARE ESPECIALLY PRONE TO THIS TYPE OF ACCIDENT.

I HAVE REVIEWED THE CONDITION OF THE PRIMARY ROADS IN THE SIX NORTHWESTLY TOWNSHIPS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND CONWAY RANKS LOWEST IN THE PERCENTAGE OF PAVED. WE ONLY HAVE 13 MILES PAVED OUT OF 17.5 MILES OF PRIMARY ROADS. SOME TOWNSHIPS ARE 100% PAVED.

THE MOST RECENT TRAFFIC COUNT ON NICHOLSON AT CHASE LAKE IS 841 CARS IN ONE DAY WHICH EQUALS OVER 260,000 VEHICLES IF A CONSERVATIVE SIX DAY WEEK IS USED.

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH IS EXTREMELY STRONG IN THE FOWLerville AREA AND NEW JOBS WILL CREATE MORE NEW HOMES AND SOME OF THESE WILL BE SERVED BY NICHOLSON ROAD.

WE SINCERELY HOPE AS A RESULT OF THESE HEARINGS THAT CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO DIRECT SOME STATE FUNDING TO LIVINGSTON COUNTY AND EARMARKED TO PRIMARY ROADS WITH SOME CONCERNS FOR NICHOLSON ROAD.

THANK YOU.